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(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS WHEREIN MULTIPLE, SIMULTANEOUS ENTRIES TO A SINGLE GAME OF CHANGE ARE ELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS BASED ON BOTH MATCHING AND NON-MATCHING SYMBOLS

(57) Abstract: A system and process for generating, distributing and processing entries to a game of chance (e.g. a lottery, lotto, or other Game of chance), based on the fact that a player has the ability to play multiple wagers simultaneously in one combined and simultaneous entry. For each individual wager played, the win/loss status of the wager is determined based on the number of matching selections. If a player decides to play multiple simultaneous wagers in one entry, an additional win/loss status for the combined entry (if eligible) is determined based on the number of nonmatching selections. Wagers and entries are appropriately priced, and are validated at the point of sale by a central controller in which the entry information is stored. Subsequent to each closing of the game of chance (e.g. lottery drawing), the winning selection of symbols is compared to the wagers and entries in a central database to determine the maximum number of matches among the individual wagers, and the minimum number of matches among the combined entries. Winning wagers and entries are appropriately identified. A methodology to price wagers and combined, simultaneous entries is provided. A method and apparatus are further provided whereby a participant in the game of chance may query the win status of a wager or entry.